AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended)   Method for manufacturing a patient-specific implant, comprising

generating a virtual three-dimensional model from image data of at least the patient's implant area and the environment thereof,

comparing the virtual three-dimensional model to real medical reference data,

selecting from the real medical reference data a set of said reference data . best suited for the patient and forming a three-dimensional reference model object therefrom, the step of selecting the set of said reference data best suited for the patient and forming a reference model object therefrom comprising

first selecting a plurality of sets of the reference data and forming a corresponding plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects therefrom most resembling the patient considering mathematical, functional, medical and aesthetic parameters, and

then selecting one of said plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects best suited for the patient,

generating a virtual implant model from said selected one of said plurality

of <u>three-dimensional</u> reference model objects by superimposing said selected one

of said plurality of <u>three-dimensional</u> reference model objects with the virtual three-

dimensional model, and

manufacturing the implant by computer numeric control based on data from

the virtual implant model.

2.   (Previously Presented)   Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

the real medical reference data comprise a database.

3.   (Canceled)

4.   (Previously Presented)   Method as claimed in claim 1 or 2,

wherein the real medical reference data comprises data from the patient.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Canceled)

7.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the virtual implant model is a three-dimensional virtual implant model.

8.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the selection of one of said plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects best suited for the patient is made in consideration of an expert medical opinion.

9.   (New) Method for manufacturing a patient-specific implant, comprising

generating a virtual three-dimensional model from image data of at least the patient's implant area and the environment thereof,

comparing the virtual three-dimensional model to real medical reference data,

selecting from the real medical reference data a set of said reference data best suited for the patient and forming a three-dimensional reference model object therefrom, the step of selecting the set of said reference data best suited for the patient and forming a reference model object therefrom comprising

first selecting a plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects similar to the virtual three-dimensional model considering mathematical, functional, medical and aesthetic parameters, and

then selecting one of said plurality of three-dimensional reference

model objects best suited for the patient,

generating a virtual implant model from said selected one of said plurality

of three-dimensional reference model objects by superimposing said selected one

of said plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects with the virtual three-

dimensional model, and

manufacturing the implant by computer numeric control based on data from

the virtual implant model.

10.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the real medical

reference data comprise a database.

11.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the real medical

reference data comprises data from the patient.

12.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the virtual implant

model is a three-dimensional virtual implant model.

13.   (New) Method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the selection of one

of said plurality of three-dimensional reference model objects best suited for the

patient is made in consideration of an expert medical opinion.